Dear Adviser,

Thank you for taking an interest in supporting study abroad opportunities for UC Berkeley students. Berkeley Study Abroad works closely with students throughout the process to ensure they are well supported and prepared to engage in an international academic experience. We hope that this packet can provide you with an overview of why study abroad is important, how study abroad works at UC Berkeley, and suggestions on how we can all work together to support students’ success.

Studying abroad offers students the opportunity to put their UC Berkeley education in a global context and shape their perspective of critical global issues. It enables them to develop key skills like adaptability, independence, language learning, and cultural competence. In addition to personal growth, studying abroad is substantial to professional development and expanded career trajectories. For instance, top global employers have identified teamwork, an ability to work with people from diverse backgrounds, and flexibility as some of the top skills they seek in candidates. By studying abroad, students are not only expanding their understanding of the world, they are also opening themselves up to a wealth of future academic and professional opportunities.

In an effort to reach the Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education’s goal to triple the number of UC Berkeley students who study abroad, the Berkeley Study Abroad office is excited to work with Academic Advisers to encourage and support study abroad participation amongst our students. Therefore, we are providing you with a Study Abroad starter kit as a foundation for how the Berkeley Study Abroad office works and what opportunities are available to students. While our staff of Professional and Peer Advisors are diligently supporting students as they prepare to study abroad, it is also important for students to work closely with their College and Department Advisors to ensure that they remain on track for graduation and major requirements.

This packet includes a general overview of Berkeley Study Abroad, the programs available to students, and the roles and responsibilities of campus advisers as we all work together to support students. Thank you for taking the time to review the packet and please feel free to contact us at any time with questions.

Sincerely,

The Staff of
Berkeley Study Abroad